

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-0672/158461.01
Application No.: 09/995,224
Office Action Dated: November 27, 2007

**PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116**

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-24 were pending in the Application. Claims 1-3 and 5-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 6 and 24 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Claims 2-3 and 5-23 are herein canceled. Claim 1 is amended herein to include the limitations of former dependent claims 5 and 6. Claim 24 is amended to change its dependency from canceled claim 6 to claim 1. No new matter is added by these amendments.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's statement that claims 6 and 24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of former claim 6 and the intervening dependent claim 5. Claim 24 is amended to depend from the amended claim 1. Applicants believe that these amendments place the claims in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the Application and passage to allowance is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion

As a result of the amendments submitted herewith, claims 1 and 24 are pending in the Application. The Examiner is respectfully urged to reconsider the Application. Favorable consideration and passage to issue of the application is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner should, however, find the claims as presented herein are not allowable for any reason or if the Examiner has any questions, comments, or suggestions that would expedite the prosecution of the present case, the Applicants undersigned representative would sincerely welcome a telephone conference at (206) 903-2475.

Date: February 27, 2008

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